

Remarks
Ambassdor Lewis Lukens
Income Generating Project Inauguration –
Pété “*Feddé Bamtaré*” Women’s Group
Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 12:00 p.m.

(As prepared)

Good day Pété community:
Assalamalé koum
Diam Gnali, Pété nabé!

M. le Gouverneur de Saint Louis
M. le Préfet
M. le Maire de Pété

As the Ambassador of the United States of America to Senegal and Guinea Bissau, it is with great pleasure that I come to the city of Pété in Podor to inaugurate this income-generating project. The U.S. Government is honored to have financially supported the women’s association “*GIE Feddé Bamtaré*” of Pété to purchase these 11 sewing machines, including an embroidery machine.

We believe this initiative is one of the most effective activities to reduce these women’s daily tasks -- while providing them with a revenue stream to improve their living conditions, and subsequently those of their families.

Indeed, the Ambassador’s Self-Help Program of the Embassy of the United States of America is a funding program that encourages local, and community-based initiatives and micro-projects. This program traditionally targets community groups, cooperatives, associations, and well-organized village committees devoted to the development of their community.

The Women’s Association of *Feddé Bamtaré* captured the interest of the U.S. Embassy -- thanks to your motivation, your sense of organization -- and, especially your ardent desire to perform sustainable and profitable activities. Through the assistance given by the Government of the United States to this women’s group -- we anticipate a strong and positive impact on their families, their communities and the people of the surrounding villages.

The United States of America and the Government of Senegal share the profound conviction that economic development is vital in building a great society. We are committed to promoting the work of the Women’s Association of *Feddé Bamtaré* by providing our support.

I congratulate the Women’s Association “*Feddé Bamtaré*” of Pété for this project, and wish them every success in their future endeavors.

Gaccé ngaala énone / Rewbé Pété !